

## MOTD

US\$1.00 Canada \$1.25

The International Newsletter of the OS-9 Users Group Jan/Feb 1989

## President's Column

by Dave Kalata

Another year is quickly coming to an end which means that it is once again time to elect a new batch of officers to run the OS-9 Users Group for the following year. Actually, this is the FIRST time in the UG's history that the membership will actually have a CHOICE for who they want to run things. I suppose this is a good sign—perhaps this is the first time in a long while that there has been this much confidence that the UG is (finally) on the right track. Don't get me wrong, there is still a LONG way to go before all of the UG's problems have been completely solved. But this is the closest we've ever come to total financial and political health. I predict that, unless the next bunch of guys REALLY screw it up, we'll be a pretty lean and mean operation by this time next year.

Elsewhere in this issue I have attempted to compile a bit of information on each of the candidates for 1989 office, based on the autobiographical data that most of them sent to me. Unfortunately, not everyone was able to find the time to get their information in time before the publication deadline of this issue, so I've had to rely on my own memory a bit. But I think you'd rather have incomplete information than none at all when making your choices for 1989.

If you've glanced back to the director ballot enclosed in this issue, you have probably noticed that you don't see my name listed anywhere. Well, as you have correctly guessed, I will not be running for any office for 1989. Why? Because I need some time off to pursue other things for awhile. Those of you who have been following the OS-9 Users Group from its beginning in August of 1982 will recall that I have been involved continuously since the very beginning (specifically I am founding member #7). In 1983 I accepted the appointment of Librarian to coordinate the UG Public Domain Software Library. Carl Kessler soon volunteered to help me out with the effort and, in the next three years, we had done our best to put together a pretty neat library. When

Cont. Page 2.

## Treasurer's Report

George Dorrer

Finance of the OS-9 Users Group are slowly and steadily coming under control again. This will be a separate report. Any member who wants a detailed financial report of the UG may receive one by sending a SASE to me at the address listed.

We have two checking accounts in which UG funds are kept. The main one is with the Commerce Bank of Kansas City. Most of the income and disbursements flow through this account. An account is also held at the Farmers National Bank of Annapolis. The purpose of this account is to support publication of the MOTD. Disbursements are made from it by the Editor and reviewed by me.

The Commerce Bank account showed a balance of \$1094.66 on the October report. Since then we have deposited \$1244 in checks received for memberships and donations. In the same period, we have written checks for \$1344.39. In addition, \$1,190 of receipts taken in at the Princeton Banquetfest have been deposited directly in the Maryland MOTD account. The balance in that account as of October 31 was \$608.68. I am transferring a check for \$580 to that account for publication of the issue you have in hand.

We still have obligations to Frank and to Frank Hagg, remaining from the "Business" the OS-9UG experienced several years ago. At our assets and projected cash flow present, we make payments on these obligations. At the moment, the remaining obligation to Frank is around \$5,000, and we think the amount owed Frank Hagg is less than \$1,000. We are most appreciative of the desirable position both parties have taken with respect to the debts. Without their cooperation and support, the UG would be out of business.

On the bright side, the renewals are flowing in, a strong response to the special mailing which was made recently to those who were overdue. Also, I have received checks from more than half who received the special request I made to those who had

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN	1
TREASURER'S REPORT	1
Candidates	2
100000 DOLLARS	3
OS-9 BOOKS	4
Office Candidates	6
Subscribers	6
Books	6
Ad Rates	6
Marilyn Law	7
AD Input for the CoCo	8
From the EDITOR	10
Book Order Form	11
Membership Application	11
Library Info	12
Space Publications Review	12
OS-9UG complete	13
OS-9UG	13
Office electronic address	16

sent bank card orders which, due to our fiscal problems, we could not collect. This was a real inconvenience to some members, notably our Canadian and overseas members. Thanks to you folks for your patience and understanding. We hope to get that patched soon, but please don't use your charge cards with OS-9UG orders until we give the word.

We have some specific fiscal goals for next year. I plan to share those in the next MOTD. I would be glad to discuss the financial status of the organization with anyone

who is interested. Drop me a note on CompuServe, 76036,106 or Delphi,OS9UGTIES, or to George Dorrer, P.O. Box 1051, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

OS-9

## Four Drives for CoCo

By Bob van der Poel

I recently acquired two double-sided 80-track drives from CoCo. Running them under OS-9 is no problem; however, I also wanted to run my two existing 48-trackers—a total of four double-sided drives—a total of two meg of on-line storage. The short answer to the problem is that you can't do it. The disk controller for the CoCo only recognizes three drive select lines (Tandy permits four single-sided drives by using disk select as the fourth drive select, however we need that line as a disk select).

So what to do? One solution is to use a hardware switch which will toggle between a 48 and 80 tracker. Workable, but cheap. The ideal solution would be to get that fourth drive select line working. Again, a hack of the drive controller would be indicated—not something for the faint of heart.

But where there is a will, there is usually a way. First off, remember that there are already three drive select lines being controlled. And three bits of wire (wider each line to be a single bit of a binary number) can represent values 0 to 7. Is it possible to "convert" this to drive numbers? Yes.

Now I had to get some help from Robert Devine, my own personal hardware expert. He decided that a simple chip called a 3 to 8 decoder would do the job for us. The chip we used is a 74LS138. We actually built a circuit board, but it should be possible to construct the whole thing right on the drive cable. Here are the backlogs:

```

100 1 --- drive select 0 (line 15) from the disk con-
101 troller
102 2 --- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
103 3 --- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
104 4 --- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
105 5 --- to 48 tracks (drive select)
106 6 --- to 80 tracks (drive select)
107 7 --- to ground (drive select)
108 8 --- to ground
109 9 --- to drive select 0 (line 15) to the drive
110 10 --- drive select 1 (line 16) to the drive
111 11 --- drive select 2 (line 17) to the drive
112 12 --- drive select 3 (line 18) to the drive
113 13 --- drive select 4 (line 19) to the drive
114 14 --- to 48 tracks (drive select)
115 15 --- to 80 tracks (drive select)

```

Note that this circuit should be placed between the drive controller and the drives. Pins 1,2 and 3 are driven by the controller. The translated drive select information is sent out of pins 12, 13, 14 and 15. Also, you'll have to get 330 ohm pullup resistors on pins 1,2 and 3. Connect the other end of the resistors to +5 volts.

A slight change will also have to be

made to the software. The module CCoDisk is the one which actually toggles the drive lines. Somewhere in it is a table of drive select masks. Depending on which driver you are using the actual location of this table will vary. The easiest thing to do is find it with DEBUG. Simply invoke DEBUG and do the following:

```

[ccdisk]
Debug will respond with a value
(e.g. 0000). Now find the drive select
table with:
a,0000
Press enter twice. You should now
be at a $04. Type:
q
You should now be at a $40. Type:
q
Now you can leave DEBUG. Type:
q

```

The drive table will now read \$01, \$02, \$03, \$04. Now you must verify the module. Do this with either modpatch or verify. Save the modified CCoDisk to disk and create a new boot disk with the appropriate drive descriptions and you'll be away to the moon.

ccc and vcc

## President Collins quit...

the UC had suffered its major financial setbacks in 1986 and Brian Lantz stepped down from his position as President, I was asked to replace Bill Turner as Vice President so that he could take Brian's spot until a more permanent set of officer candidates could be located and election could be held. Unfortunately, Bill Turner decided to run for an office in that next election (which actually occurred in January of this year) and the UC was left with no candidate for President. So I ran, (against nobody). I have now served a full year as President (after three as Librarian and one as Vice President) and am ready for a break.

Anyway, I think its time we get somebody who is running OS-9/6029 on a TBS-90 Color Computer to be in charge for awhile. After all, the vast majority of UC members are CoCo owners. I will continue using OS-9/6020 and will be back running for UC office sometime after OSK. This is big, probably when CD-1 finally arrives. For now, I am resigning to the fact that OS-9/689 users are the ones who have the most to benefit from

being involved in the OS-9 Users Group at the present time. I'm afraid in OS-9/689 users are paid a bit before our time. Let's see how it looks this time next year.

In the meantime, I'll continue to periodically contribute articles to the newsletter and probably get back into working on the Library a bit (it really does need a significant overhaul after remaining relatively unchanged for almost two years now). Carl Kreyder has expressed an interest in taking a break from the Library for awhile, so I'll be recommending a replacement for the next President to appoint as Librarian.

So now it's time to vote. An Election Board earlier in the official election bulletin is posted elsewhere in this issue of the MORD. Please don't forget to put your membership number and the words "ELECTION BALLOT" on the outside of the envelope when you mail it in. The deadline for having your vote counted is March 15th, 1988, so please make sure you mail it to the UC's main address in Tampa in time for us to receive it by then.

Happy Holidays!

## Classified

## For Sale

QT computer, 66028 machine with 4 serial and 2 parallel ports. Came with 2 floppies, now has one floppy and room for hard drive of your choice. 1830, Quercus QVT-602 also available for \$125. Call Paul Sumner at 202-744-3053

Members are reminded that they are entitled to place reasonable classified ads here for free.

## 1988 UG Officer Candidates

by Dave Kallala

**Kevin Darling** - running for President! I wasn't able to get complete information on Kevin's background at time for this issue of the MDTD, but to most of us, Kevin's name is pretty well known. Most recently, Kevin has written a book and a number of articles about OS-9/6809 (April 1 and April 2) for the TRS-80 Color Computer and is one of the standard types on the OS-9 Forum on CompuServe. More recently, Kevin has been fiddling with OS-9/68000 on a borrowed Atari 30 computer and has made a pretty neat plot of public domain wordprocessing software available for it. The CoCo 3 running OS-9/6809, however, remains Kevin's non-computing interest, at least for the time being. Kevin has been the Secretary of the OS-9 Users Group for two years now (1987 and 1988) and is now willing to give it a try as President.

**Herbert Schneider III** - running for President. Bert Schneider became involved with the OS-9 Users Group back in 1985 when he volunteered to help out with the Library. I quickly convinced him to write a series of articles for the MDTD newsletter for the purpose of raising the subscription which appeared in the UG Library. These articles ended up being one of the most liked features in the newsletter. Bert has remained an MDTD contributor and a now interested in getting involved with the UG at a higher level. Starting out with an original TRS-40 Color Computer in 1980, Bert now runs OS-9/6809 on what he describes as "a highly modified S126 Color Computer 3 with 28 megabytes of online storage". He has been running OS-9 since 1984, and claims to be proficient at both assembler and high level language programming for the CoCo. Bert is a Captain in the U.S. Air Force, where he has been employed for the last eight years. He received his B.S.E.E. from the Virginia Military Institute in 1980 and, more recently, a M.S.E.E. from the Air Force Institute of Technology. He is currently Chief of Systems Engineering of Antitank/Air Intelligence Branch. In June of 1988, Bert and his family plan to move to Colorado Springs where he will become a faculty member at the Air Force Academy, working at the small tunnel laboratory and working in the Antitank department.

**Bruce Brad** - running for Vice President. Bruce is a self-taught computer programmer/banker of impressive capabilities. Since 1980, he has obtained on the job and personal experience with CP/M, TRSDOS, MSDOS, the Apple Macintosh, and OS-9/68K (on a TRS-80 Color Com-

puter). Bruce has also worked with a few single chip microcomputers, such as the Motorola MC68000 in both hardware and software design. Bruce is currently the President of the Calgary Color Computer Club (his local CoCo club) and is, therefore, no stranger to the responsibilities a position as an officer of a computer club holds at home.

**Gary Lee** - running for Vice President. Gary was so excited about the announcement that OS-9 was to become available for the CoCo in 1983 that he paid for his copy a full two months before his local Radio Shack store received its first shipments. Once after receiving his copy, Gary added dual-80 track drives and a hard drive to his setup. His quest for more knowledge of OS-9 led him to the online worlds of CompuServe and Delphi, where he has been very active for the past few years. Eventually, Gary became the Database Manager for the Delphi OS-9 SIG and, in 1987, was promoted to SigOp. Gary has most recently also become involved on the Delphi forum on PCLink.

**Mark Griffin** - running for Secretary. Mark says he has been "using OS-9/6809 on the TRS-80 Color Computer for 4 or 5 years now and enjoying every minute of it". He also claims to have been "hacking at electronics for over 25 years". Mark holds both B.A. and M.A. degrees in psychology from the University of South Florida and is currently employed at Western University as an intern. Mark is a Vietnam veteran (having spent 18 years in the Air Force). Mark is most proficient at writing in the C programming language but has also written in BASIC, assembler, and Pascal. He is the author of a number of improvements to the public domain communication programs, MSD and MSDOS and has most recently rewritten Carl Knibler's MSDOS program to create STSRM - presently the only OS-9 formatted software which supports CompuServe's B+ protocol. Mark's goals for the UG are, in his words, "for the group to become the single driving force for OS-9 to replace the world about its various, and to see the UG become a clearing house for knowledge, expertise and software for OS-9/6809 and OS-9/68000".

**Pat Turner** - running for Secretary. Like most, Pat Turner was also one of the founding members of the OS-9 Users Group, having joined at the UG's first official meeting in August of 1982. Although he served on a number of UG committees

continuously since the UG started, his most active period of involvement began in 1986 when he was elected as Vice President under Brian Lewis. When Brian stepped down in 1987, Pat took over as President. He spent most of 1987 and 1988 working on getting the UG paperwork in order and the membership database computerized so that future UG officers could manage it more effectively. Pat's software is used today to keep track of all member records including membership status, disk orders, and the MDTD mailing list. In that Pat's role is employed by the UG as Correspondence Secretary, Pat has been active in helping answer the mail and dealing with some of the clerical issues. Pat has been employed in the computer industry since 1980 and began his involvement with microcomputers in the late 1970's as Regional Editor for Interface Age Magazine. He is currently employed as Senior Systems Programmer at GTE Data Services in Florida. He is also an advisor for a SSA, Explains that for young adults which is studying data processing where he is exposing them to OS-9 on CoCo 3 computers.

**George Stamer** - running for Treasurer. George has been involved with MSX microcomputers since the early days in the mid 1970's when he built a SANYO computer kit. In the early 1980's, he began running OS-9 and has said it over and over. He has run OS-9 on many computers, including the "M8" 6809 board for the Apple II and 6809 and 68000 systems from Gerni, Macintosh, Fujitsu and, of course, Sandy. George is currently Dean of Technology, Math and Physical Sciences at Harper College (M4 of Chicago) where he still runs OS-9 today. He is an electronics hobbyist, actively involved in ham radio (and specifically packet writing) under the call letters W9ZS2. Another original founding member, George has been actively involved with the OS-9 Users Group since the very beginning. Beginning in 1982, he was the first online BBS "OS9BBS" on a microcomputer at work. He handled the book's share of the work in running the group in 1983 through 1984 by answering the mail, paying the bills and getting the UG incorporated while holding the office of Treasurer. I asked George to return to his post of Treasurer for the 1988 term when I could not find any other qualified candidates for the position. Unfortunately (for George), the members decided in 1987 if there is any one person who could be said to be more responsible than anyone else for the OS-9 Users Group still being in existence today, it's George.



**Abstract**

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 — GORDON LEE C. BRONKHORST

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Convert numbers into words. For example, all numbers in L2s should be spelled out and not left as numbers. For example, "1000" should be written as "one thousand".

By using any further questions regarding the 2014 Survey Group, you should log in to an area of the Online Survey and Confidentiality Details to learn critical information and submit one of the 20-01 checks (Group Affirmation) of the addresses reproduced below, or call 1-800-368-5878. Your checks on the new, pending, and existing flow.

**Not too soon afterlife in the OS-2 Team Group Newsletter?** The newsletter will be printed approximately on pages 10.5" x 11" (letter size), on 11" x 14.5" (tabloid size) format. The newsletter is the most important of publishing format, with the exception that two-color sets will only be available under some publishing conditions. Contact a US office before publishing. Send us information about which format the newsletter will be on.

Send your camera-ready, on-line manuscript and a check for payment to the OSA Office Group so that it is received no later than the 15th of the month, even in nonbusiness months.

### Abstract

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## Murphy's Law -

## Hard Disk Drive Directory Tool

by Jerry Murphy

One of my intentions later tonight will be to go to bed when I was upgrading the hard drive system, and the odds I used to keep me from doing it to myself again might be of some interest to others. Besides, Bill Brady has been on my case to come up with another article for the MOTO, and this is a natural.

Several months ago, I added a 20 Meg HD to my Coco II system, and shared some of the trials and tribulations with you. At that time, I mentioned I'd be trying to fill it up. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect that to happen so soon! A new 20 Meg Mega is now on line, and the 20 Meg HD is moving over to my backup Coco II.

The procedure for starting up a hard drive system may seem cut and dried at first, but there are some pitfalls to look for as in ANY adventure game. This hard article will list an only a few basic and looks for your consideration should you decide to go the hard drive route.

Format and verify will be the first steps, of course. Then, the very first thing you'll want on the new hard drive is a boot sector. No disk will boot without a CMMOS directory which includes shell and grids; so that was my next install disk. The first time I did this, on the 20 Mega, I entered a number of directories and subdirectories with 'makefile'. The result was functional, but I soon found directories and files fragmented all over the place. Disk access time was really long, and the noise of the heads working all over for what I wanted was very disturbing. Next time, I promised, the directories would be sufficient in number, and large enough to accommodate the files.

But how big to make the directory? Is there a choice? The answer is an easy YES! We look at the fact that Phil Lyall wrote for his program 'makefile', and find the following:

Makefile in its simplest form merely creates a directory. This can also be accomplished by the 'makefile' command that is delivered with most versions of OS-9. It will allocate the default number of sectors to the directory as specified in the device descriptor entry IISAS.

Makefiles from 'makefile' in that it may be told to override the default number of sectors specified in

IISAS. Normally, floppy disks are set for an IISAS of 8, and hard disks are set for 32. This space is not actually in use but still belongs to the directory so that attempts to expand it later will not result in rampant disk fragmentation. That is, it has been set aside for future use and is no longer available to the free sector pool.

Contemplating on this subject for hours of midday and being (now) a first believer in as much information as possible, I used this program, in concert with daveex and tool, to create a script file to move from my earlier poor attempt to create sufficient directory space.

The actual decision to implement makefile was a choice, as most things are around here. Before removing the 20 Meg from the system, I made a drive file to make the choice of copying flags from 20 to 40 a bit easier. It will work just as well moving files from floppy to the smallest of destination disks, floppy or hard format. I decided that most, but not all, of what I had on the 20 should move to the 40.

During the editing of the drive file to remove from it things that would not move from one to the other (I accidentally hit some wrong keys with my handle-dancer. The result was a deletion of all the files in a particular directory (in the drive script only). This left me with a few files that looked like what could be a script for making the directories on the destination in one grand shot.

Removing all the file names from the file, I was left with a long list of makefile and chd commands. A global change made for drive-generated command of Makefile into Makefile. Next step was to insert the proper -e values so makefile would lock a certain number of files into the directory allocation. Some directories now have several hundred spaces, and others only a few dozen. As a rule of thumb, I noted how many filenames are in the directories now, and simply doubled or tripled that number for the -e command. Being always hopeful, the quick directory has room for 1000 filenames, but apps has only 100, as an example. I was all set to rock, in roll with it when Kevin Patterson stopped by with a suggestion.

I had left in the several chd commands generated by dave. For in-

stance, a few of the lines included: Makefile CMMOS, chd CMMOS, Makefile ICCONS, chd ICCONS, chd CMMOS, Makefile PRO, chd CMMOS, chd CMMOS, Makefile PRO, chd CMMOS, etc. Too slow and cumbersome, Kevin said. Deleting every chd line, and inserting the proper directories in front of the names of the sub, we wound up with Makefile CMMOS, Makefile ICCONS, Makefile CMMOS, Makefile PRO, etc. There were other inserts for the -e numbers, of course.

This script file took less than a minute to execute, and left me with a directory structure on the hard drive just like I wanted, with all the floundering around done in the making of the scriptable. I chose not to use some of the several other options in Makefile, but the user who attempts to use this procedure should first consult the Phil Lyall disk to Makefile.

The next step was to execute the other drive scripts to copy the files from source to the new hard drive. In addition to the drive scripts, I made heavy use of the drive piping routine you'll find in Dale Parker's Complete Rainbow Guide to OS-9, on page 160. I also used the piping routine using ls and call that Kevin wrote about in an earlier issue of MOTO.

When I executed the drive piping routine, dave automatically issued a command to makefile the appropriate filenames. But these filenames assigned to directories already existed, so I got a 218 error. Not too worry, the system cooked merrily along, doing the 20 to the 40 selectively. And the 40 now does it's thing in remarkably less time, and quieter.

How long before I outgrow the 40 Mega? That's up to YOU! Start hacking!

My special thanks to Chris Burke for a superior interface, to Phil Lyall for Makefile (and other programs), to Bill Brady for management, to Kevin Patterson for local help, and to the OS9UC for making it all so necessary.

Jerry Murphy, MOTO

OS-9 Ideal

## High Speed A/D Input for the Color Computer

by Tim Taylor

There haven't a lot of articles showing how Basic99 interacts with machine language, so readers might be interested in some information on an analog-to-digital data acquisition system that reveals some of the principles involved. One of the really nice features of Basic99 is how well it interacts with machine code, so the listings provided here might give some encouragement for those interested in the subject and possibly serve as a template for other Basic99 - hardware - machine code projects. The circuitry required for the A/D operation described here is very simple, and its connection to a 6821 PIA-based I/O port allows the creation of a high performance system. The result lets Basic99 collect 8 bit data at the very respectable rate of up to 50,000 conversions per second on my CoCo I, and a fast computer clock would allow data collection at up to about 50,000 conversions per second.

The A/D circuit is based on a TLC548 A to D chip that has been selling at Radio Shack for about \$4. This is a Texas Instruments' chip and also available through their distributors for a price that goes down to about \$2 each in quantity 100. The TLC548 is a serial output chip and easy to push up at first glance, but the 20 msec maximum conversion + read time and 8 1/2 bit accuracy make the chip a lot more attractive when you give it a little thought. Fig 1 shows the circuit for this chip. Most hardware parts work well for the reference voltage adjust, and setting them for 1/2 volt and 3 1/2 volts respectively, provides a 3 volt input range for the A/D that is optimal in the linear range of the buffering transistors.

The A/D circuit is built on a card that plugs directly into the I/O port and cable is run out to a small signal

buffering box containing the circuit shown in Fig 2. A flip of its switch allows the data to be input either as a DC signal with variable attenuation or an AC signal with variable offset. External amplifiers are usually used to connect the system up to a transducer of interest. The A/D circuit of Fig 1 can be hooked up to just about any I/O port, but the secret to a high performance system comes through con-

necting a machine language subroutine. It puts pointers to the passed parameters and the parameter lengths on the stack. The data collection program just reads the stack to find where to get the information, that Basic99 is sending it and how much data to collect and where to put it. Because the data length comes from Basic99, the same data collection program can do a single conversion

when asked to fill a byte variable, or any number of conversions when Basic99 sends it a byte array. The two Basic99 listings illustrate how Basic99 uses the data collection program. Both of these are simple digital oscilloscope programs.

The first list

ing, TESTBUS50G, shows operation in burst mode. It asks the data collection program for an entire array of data then plots the data to the graphics screen, thus allowing high speed data input. If one wants to collect data at a slower speed, it is usually more convenient to collect the data a single byte at a time and update the computer's graphics screen as the



Fig 1 Interface circuit for TLC548 A/D chip.

setting the A/D chip to a 6821 PIA. The 6821 has an on-board shift register that can directly read the TLC548 at high speed. It also has an on-board timer that make it easy for the software to provide an accurate variable time delay between data conversions.

Those people who have been using the Motorola 6821 chip for their interfacing might want to consider a 6822 for their next project. The 6822 is a cousin of the 6821 and differs from it internally by 4 pins. Internally it has many more on-board functions. A possible disadvantage for the 6822 is that it needs 4 address lines rather than the 2 address lines of the 6821. This could make the chip hard to fit into a limited I/O address space.

The software to use this system is straight forward and I've provided a listing of the machine language data collection program as well as two Basic99 listings that show how it is used. When li-

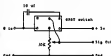


Fig 2 Signal conditioning circuit allows DC in with variable attenuation or AC in with variable offset.

data is being collected. The second listing, TESTLOC, does this because 50 cycle noise can be present even at slow scanning rates, it pays to over-



age data over the length of the requested time delay, and this is done in TESTSLOG.

Programs like the ones shown are made to be versatile, and BASIC9 makes it easy to add features for differing applications. To show how well it all comes out in the end, Figs 3 and 4 show the kind of output that the system can produce. The upper plot in Fig 3 is data taken with the A-D system at an 8 kHz data rate, and is the modulated voice of a singer.

Plotted below this is the frequency spectrum of the voice, calculated as the amplitude of a Fast Fourier Transform of the data. The spectrum plot has zero at the center and shows the broad lines of the fundamental frequency and its harmonics as well as the spikes of the closely spaced frequencies that beat together to give rise to the modulation in the voice.

Fig 4 is an example of data taken at a slow scanning speed. This figure follows the temperature of a small test tube of molten sulphur as it cools down over a 15 minute period, with temperature measured using a thermocouple immersed in the liquid sulphur. The bump shows the sulphur supercooling then heating up again as it goes through the liquid-solid phase transition.

My own applications for the A-D system require that it be fairly portable, so I have packaged the I/O port together with some battery backup static memory in a cartridge. During program development, the cartridge is plugged in parallel to a normal disk drive and acts as a ram disk. When running an application, the car-

tridge is hooked into the OS9 kernel to get it to do a cartridge boot. I am currently working on a cartridge that will work with the CoCo II (takes slightly different hardware) and casting around for a better way to get OS9 to boot from it.

FIG 3: Data plot of a singer's voice and its frequency spectrum.

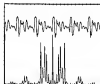


Fig 3: Data plot of a singer's voice and its frequency spectrum.

tridge is used in a stand alone mode where OS9 boots off the cartridge and runs using the static memory as a

FIG 4: Data plot showing a cooling curve for molten sulphur.

FIG 4: Data plot showing a cooling curve for molten sulphur.

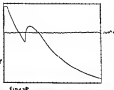


Fig 4: Data plot showing a cooling curve for molten sulphur.

All in all, I think the system described here shows BASIC9 off very nicely.

Battery disk.

Writing a battery ram driver was straight forward, but I found that I

#### PROCEDURE TESTSLOG

```
1 Start mode 8 data array from A-D
1 Plots to graphics screen.
```

```
REM A-D DATA
REM Delay=INTERO
REM 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Delay=0
100 REM
REM SOUND=(A,B,C,D,E)
REM GOSUB "MODE",0,0
REM GOSUB "CLEAR"
REM J=0 TO 255
REM GOSUB "TEMP",J=0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
NEXT J
GOTO 100
```

#### PROCEDURE TESTLOG

```
1 Flow data collection gets
1 single bytes of data,
1 averages them and plots
1 them to the graphics screen.
```

```
REM 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
REM A-D DATA
REM GOSUB "MODE",0,0
REM GOSUB "CLEAR"
Delay=1
J=0
100 REM GOSUB "TEMP"
J=0
REM=0
REM=0
REM COLLECTION TIME LOOP
FOR J=1 TO 255
REM SOUND=(A,B,C,D,E)
NEXT J
J=0
IF A=12 THEN J=12
NEXT J
```

```
REM PLOT NEW DATA
REM GOSUB "MODE",J=0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
J=0
J=0
IF J=0 THEN J=0
GOTO 100
```

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# From the Editor

Time flies (especially when waiting for mail labels). A year has gone by since I began editing the MOTO. It has been fun, but a lot of hard work also.

You may wonder why the editor and librarian do not show up on the ballot elsewhere in this issue. The reason is that the editor and librarian are appointed by the president, not elected.

Since we will undoubtedly have a new president after the election, this may be my last issue of the MOTO.

(The new President may appoint someone else, or I may not choose to continue under the new officers.)

Just in case this is my last issue, I would like to take the opportunity here to interject a personal note or two.

By and large, I am superimpressed with OS-9UG members. You are really a terrific group of folks. Your letters and submissions have been first rate! Many of you have, and continue to, work very hard to further our favorite OS. I am exposed to other groups that I consider 1/2 mile compared to you. But then again, maybe that is just a reflection of the quality of our OS-9.

Many things that I thought would happen this year have not come to pass. Some of the things that I have told you about have only been delayed, others have ceased to exist. For example, two of our OS-9Meets are business have seemingly faded into the sunset (i.e. actually actually).

On the other side of the coin, those who offer quality products are reporting that 1988 was the best year ever for OS-9 related sales and user support. In my own case, the WinPro shareware offering is doing phenomenally well, and almost all of the letters I have received have been enthusiastic and generous in their praise.

The important thing for us to remember is that we must continue to spread the word through 1989!

## MUST-HAVE!

On the must have list is Bob Pappas' IBM keyboard adapter. I have been using one for over a year. This is about the best thought out and designed product I have ever seen for a computer. It works! and yes, you can get the CoCo and that "MkII&MkII4 Multi-Pak adapter anywhere you want to.

Bob has decided to offer his adapter direct to UG members at a slightly lower price than through "normal" channels. Yes, this is the same adapter! Bob has a goodly supply on hand right now so get it before he runs out! See page 3



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- 2. LIBRARIAN: BARRY BLOOMBERG FOR M. BLOOMBERG
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designs to disk. <See Publish?>info>

**Parameters** - allows adjustment of block location, margins, font size, line spacing, justification and proportional spacing. **Save Page** - saves current file to disk either as old or new file. **Load Page** - loads previously saved file. **Read Text** - reads a standard ASCII file as text input. **Image** - reads a graphic image file and allows positioning anywhere on the page.

**Delete** - deletes graphics and text from the workspace or deletes files from disk.

**Boundaries** - displays text boundaries on screen only. **Edit Image** - allows for altering, creating and saving graphic images to use in your publications. This is probably the most difficult aspect of the package as the pixels, although enhanced by a factor of four on the drawing screen, are still difficult to select. The images are 80 pixels wide by 80 pixels high. The data is stored in 400 bytes. For those of you who are mathematically inclined, that's 320 bits. It just happens that 80 X 80 is 6400 pixels. So the images are stored as one bit representing one pixel; zero is off, one is on. The image begins at the upper left corner and reads across the first row then down one line to begin again on the left side of the second row.

**Quit** - exits Home Publisher.

**Clear Page** - eliminates everything from the screen.

**Print Page** - prints page from either screen or disk file and allows choice of border.

**FORMATS** allows fourteen fonts such as Bigger, Boldface, Bookman, Boldline, etc. <See Publish?>info> <See Publish?>info>

**ATTR** governs the attributes which modify the text selected. These attributes can be used singly or in combination. They are: **BOLD** - makes the character thicker. **GUTLINE** - displays the character as a hollow outline. **ITALICS** - slants the characters. **SHADOW** - prints a shadow on the left and bottom of the characters giving them a 3D effect. <See Publish?>info>

**OPTIONS** provides **DOUBLE STRIKE** (as prefer when support it), **HIGHRES COMSTICK** (if you have the adapter (a MUST for editing images), **RGB** for an appropriate monitor, **COMPOSITE** for composite monitor, **COLORS** to change the foreground or background colors by double-clicking through 64 colors, **SYSTEM SETUP** <see Publish?>info> to adjust the Starting Block Format, Starting

Drive/Directory, (which doesn't seem to have any effect), Starting Options, Default Parameters, and Printer Definitions, and **LIBRARY** which is not implemented but is provided for future expansion. This would be my choice of where to include a more convenient program for other graphics formats.

The last menu item at the top of the screen, **APPROVAL**, is to indicate completion of selection processes. Clicking on **APPROVAL** will make any changes selected permanent. Clicking on any area outside the screen will close the pertinent windows. Changes may or may not be kept depending on the menus selected.

Home Publisher can be transferred to a hard disk if you're lucky enough, not enough, or desperate enough to own one. Appendix B, Using Home Publisher on a Hard Disk, explains the use of **COFFEE** which will copy Home Publisher to your hard disk. These directions must already exist. I would suggest creating a directory on your hard disk (there is **PUBLIC** and a **CMSD** directory within it). When **COFFEE** prompts for the execution directory type: **/ / h/p/publish/condi** and for the working directory type **/ / h/p/publish**.

Now you're ready to go. Change your working directory to **/ h/p/publish** and your execution directory to **/ h/p/publish/condi**. Type **"PUBLIC"** and you get an error message. Or it works for a few minutes then the magic squiggles appear on your screen and you and your Cere suffer a nervous breakdown. OK, what's going on? Well, probably you booted up Janice; you used the Home Publisher disk without **"h"** and **"condi"**. So how do we fix it? Well, its going to get a little involved so those of you who don't have a hard disk, count your blessings first, boot Home Publisher from the floppy. Set the pointer over **Commands** and press the mouse button. Move the pointer to **Quit** and press the mouse button. You'll be back in a shell. Now save **"h"** and **"condi"**. We can copy them to your execution directory later.

The simplest solution to the startup problem is to build a startup file like the following:

```
(cd / h/p/publish/condi)cd
/h/p/publish/publish & exec /t)
```

Use **publish <exec /t /t** if you don't have the high resolution adapter by using **/t** rather than **/TERM** you

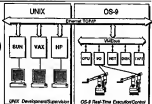
eliminate any problems if **TERM** is already busy. Save this startup file in your execution directory and if you have shells you can start Home Publisher from anywhere by simply typing **publish**.

Not mentioned in the documentation is a file included on the floppy disk called **PAG** appendix. Load it and read it. It contains a list of all the printer drivers provided with Home Publisher and gives a brief description of each. One printer driver of special note is the **DMP130**. The **DMP130** can only print 480 points horizontally but Home Publisher can output 544 points. So the driver for the **DMP130** has been modified to compensate for this. In order to use the **DMP130** driver you should format the page columns to three but only use the left two, which means a **DMP130** can have two columns of print, maximum. Or you can reset your margins and format the page for only two columns. Either will work. Some of you might have the same printer I have, a **DMP180** (I think that stands for Dams of Mass Printer, 180 BC, although I must admit it still looks as if it's cheating on some tables). You will need to use the **DMP130** printer driver which will, as mentioned earlier limit you to two columns. The smallest print Home Publisher can provide on the **DMP130** has capital letters about a quarter of an inch tall. This is very legible but still very compact. However, I find it rather remarkable that Home Publisher can support the **DMP180** at all. Other word releases from Tandy have been unable to do so.

Home Publisher also supports the **EpsonR100** and **IBM** compatible modes when used with a serial to parallel converter. This gives freedom to the user with which Home Publisher was researched and written.

If I were commenting on sheet settings I'd have to mention that the word indicators (a small triangle pointing up and one pointing down) are implemented differently than on Multi-View where they are set in small bars at the side and bottom of the screen. In Home Publisher they are contained in the pop up menu and are listed as **margin**, **first** and **last**. I would like to see more standardization. **STANDARDIZATION**™ **STANDARDIZATION**™

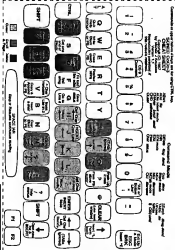
Although it could have been better, my overall impression is that Tandy



# UniBridge!

## Home Publisher Cover

made as good choice as buying this package from Spectral Associates. If you enjoy printing newsletters, certificates, awards or simply letters with illustrations then Home Publisher is worth the \$39.95. (If anyone gets Home Publisher to work, with its own under built-in, will you please write and tell me how?)



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**HOT!**

See Page three for  
CoCo/IBM keyboard  
offer!

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Just say NO!

The International Newsletter of the QSS-9 Users Group  
Jan/Feb 1989

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MESSAGE OF THE DAY

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